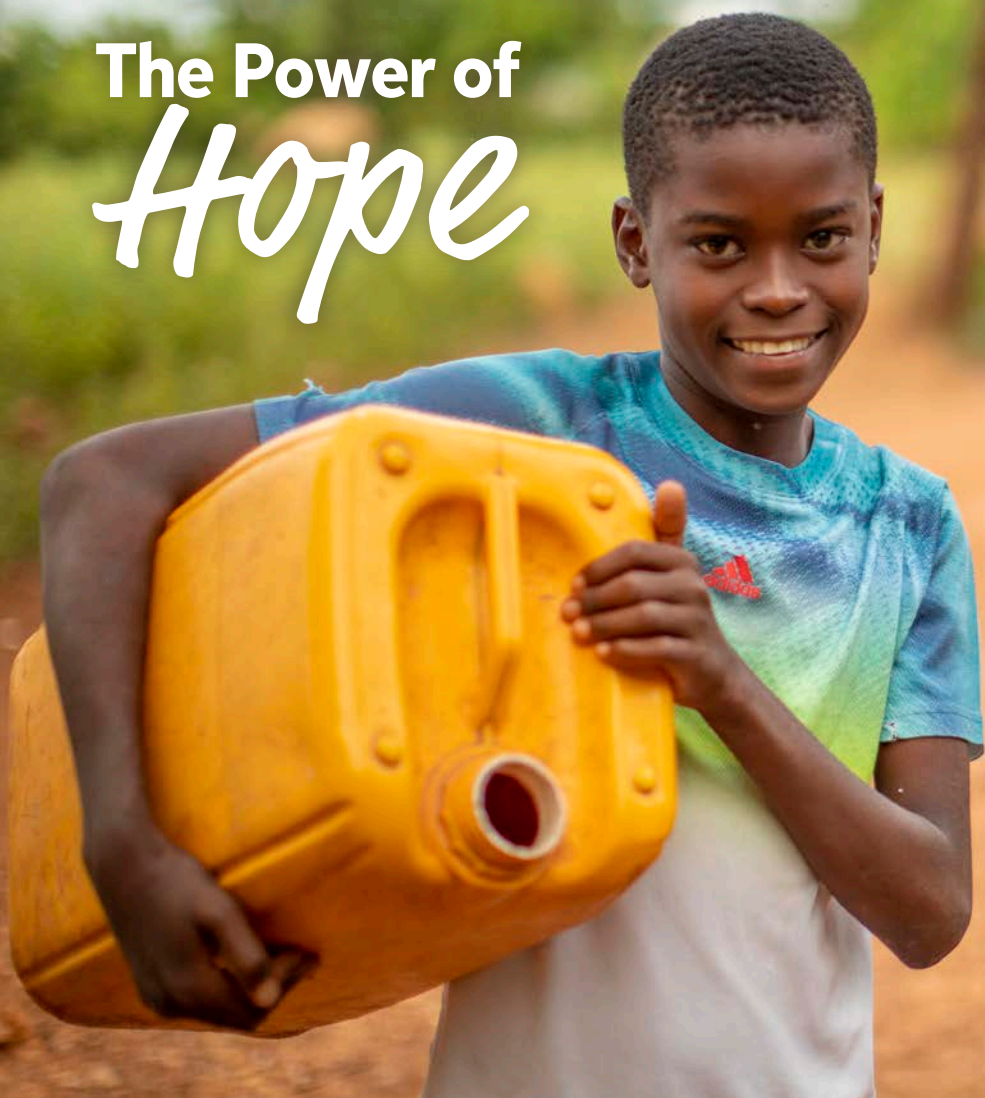


# WORLDHOPE

*Live!*

VOLUME 25 ISSUE 2 | Published semi-annually for the donors and supporters of World Hope International

## The Power of *Hope*



# Dear Friends,

In the last 25 years, World Hope has impacted more than 7.5 million people across 30 countries by implementing market-based and community-driven solutions with over \$227 million in global donor investments focused on Water, Sanitation, Energy, Health, and Protection services to provide education to children, restoration services for human trafficking survivors and other social services for vulnerable women and children.

We do this because our faith in Jesus Christ demands that we respond to communities and people who are living in vulnerable situations as we follow His lead in all that we say and do. We work in partnership with the local church both in Canada and across the world as we live out our faith in a tangible way that makes a sustainable difference in communities across the globe.

As we celebrate 25 years since the founding of World Hope, I am thankful for the people who are leading the way to promote human dignity and build opportunity and hope - people like you who support our work and like World Hope country staff who are committed to making a difference every day around the world. We are so grateful for each one of you, and I hope you will be as inspired as I am hearing this story from one of our Cambodia team members, Pheap.

With hope,



Tanya Nace  
WHI Canada CEO

## **Hello! My name is Pheap.**

*I've been working with World Hope International since 2005. I am a single mother with two children. My husband passed away back in 2000 when I was 20 years old. I dropped out of high school when I was 15 years old. My family - we were poor - and it was an arranged marriage that my parents said would improve my future. I met him on the day of our engagement and got married at 16 years old. Ten months later I had my first child, a son. Three years later, I had my daughter and then my husband passed away the next month. He hadn't fully recovered from Typhoid before being badly injured in a motorbike accident one evening on his way home and he died from fever and his injuries a couple of weeks later.*

*My husband had been a mechanic in his family's business, and I had a booth in the market, but after my husband died, I had to move back in with my family for a few years, taking care of my babies. Eventually, I was given a job working at a shelter for women, and within a year, I started working for World Hope at an assessment centre. It was a program that provided care for girls who had been exploited sexually or otherwise trafficked, raped, or abused. While working there helping these girls and young women, I knew that I wanted to pursue my education again, so in 2009 I decided to go back to school. I had to catch up in high school but I passed the state exam to graduate in 2010 and enrolled in university for a major in General Management. For four years, I worked full-time Monday to Friday and on weekends had my classes until I graduated in 2014.*



My parents had thought marrying me off would secure a good future for me, but it didn't work that way. When I first decided to return to school, my family didn't encourage me; education - for women especially - was not valued. But whenever I was tired or discouraged, I kept going because I want to be a good example to my daughter and my son.

I have continued with World Hope for 15 years now because I get to help. I travel around the country to spend time where we have programs and staff. I can encourage children who suffer from what they have gone through because I also have suffered. I can use my experience and what I have overcome to share and help the people and clients I work with. At World Hope, we work with education, clean water, and opportunities for women; I really enjoy supporting those programs.

People need to see the opportunities that are out there for them, a future of possibilities. There's power in that hope; seeing what they can access and do or be. At World Hope, we help people all around the world to change their lives and their futures, starting with children who can grow up and not only change their own lives, but change their communities, too.



**“Your generosity helps the people we work alongside and provides opportunities for staff like me and the new generation coming up to find how we can transform our communities.”**

**- PHEAP**

alongside and provides opportunities for staff like me and the new generation coming up to find how we can transform our communities.

From myself and on behalf of World Hope International, I'm so grateful to God for your support and I know that God will multiply what you give and have given.

With joy and hope,

*Pheap*

WHI Cambodia

I come from a broken family and have gone through so much hurt, but the opportunities that I got helped me to transform all the negative in my life. I've been able to complete my education, support my family, and raise my children differently, giving them a better future - and I get to make a difference to the next generation and to help other girls, and women, and communities. And that's what we do at World Hope; we are building hope together.

I have been working with World Hope for more than 15 years, and without the donations of people like you, I would not be here today or be able to do this good work. Your generosity helps the people we work



## EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

# Bosnia & Herzegovina

**W**orld Hope International Bosnia & Herzegovina exists to provide educational resources for every community in our region because we believe everyone should have quality opportunities to learn. The Solid Start tutoring program partners with 5 primary school teachers to provide one-on-one tutoring for 35 students who have significant learning challenges. Each teacher creates a custom learning plan for their students focusing on improving learning skills, completing school assignments, and developing classroom behaviour. Just imagine students of all learning abilities being equipped to actively engage in the classroom. Imagine parents being better prepared to handle the unique learning styles of their children. The Solid Start program is making an impact in this community!

Kevin\*, 8, has participated in the Solid Start program for three years now. He came to our program with several different needs including challenges with speech and tones as well as execution of fine motor skills. At first, Kevin was impatient and nervous. He was anxious when asked to sit, write or draw. He was frustrated that these things did not come easily to him, but he didn't know what to do about it.

He really enjoyed putting Legos together in unusual shapes so we used activities like this to help him in his school work and to improve his concentration. We also used clay to assist him in making his letters physically to improve his fine motor skills. Through using his hands, he was able to learn his letters. Now he can write all of his letters and read simple words; he has a desire and excitement to learn!

*\*name changed for protection purposes*

## EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

# Hope Garden Project Launch

The Hope Garden Project, located in Freeport, Grand Bahama, is a new initiative for World Hope International - Canada.

Hope Garden's purpose is to make a sustainable, long-lasting impact in the lives of children from vulnerable communities by giving them safer, healthier and happier lives.

We were very excited to officially launch the Hope Garden Project in September 2021. Our CEO, Tanya Nace, joined us at the launch party, where over 50 supporters experienced an amazing evening with a Bahamian meal and a ministry presentation.

The Hope Garden Project comes alongside local early childhood educators to provide resources for learning, community care, safe play and encouragement. We assist in providing access to literacy, in empowering childcare centres to teach their children to



develop through healthy play areas and provide additional training to educators.

- Jenny & Derek  
Project Leaders, The Bahamas

### RELATED PROJECT:

#### Hope Garfen Project

- Goal: To make a sustainable long-lasting impact in the lives of children and vulnerable communities by giving them safer healthier and happier lives.

- SDGs:







## CLEAN WATER & ENERGY

# Promoting Opportunities for Women Through MoPo

In 2016 World Hope partnered with Mobile Power Ltd. to improve access to clean and affordable energy in Sierra Leone, with a goal to help improve livelihoods, reduce carbon emissions, promote gender inclusion, and improve health in off-grid communities. We are excited to celebrate two women whose lives have been greatly impacted by Mobile Power.

Mobile Power's product "MoPo" was an idea "born in The Gambia, built in Europe, [and] deployed in West Africa." Essentially, MoPo works as a battery rental system that does not require a traditional power-grid to operate.

Here's how it all works:

First, a solar station was built to charge smart batteries. After community members select their MoPo Agents, and they are trained, the agents rent out the batteries to their local community. Renters pay for battery use through a mobile app and can exchange their empty batteries at any time. Once they turn in a battery, it returns to the solar station, continuing the cycle.

Batteries can charge up to 8 smartphones, 12 button phones, light the MoPo lightbulb, play a 12-inch Plasma TV, run the MoPo fan, and power a Bluetooth speaker. MoPo

batteries can even be used to run an LED light for 24 hours.

It is important for us that female community members find equal opportunity in all our initiatives. This is why a World Hope Gender Inclusion Officer works closely with MoPo and the local community involved with MoPo. The officer focuses on helping to train the community on gender inclusion and the importance of selecting women MoPo Agents. After the community selects them, the agents attend training sessions on running a MoPo distribution business and general entrepreneurial skills.

We are deeply gratified to hear about the impact that MoPo has had on the lives of two women agents in particular.

One MoPo Agent was excited to share with us how working as an agent has given her the skills and ability to expand her business. After renting out MoPo Batteries for a while, she began to notice that people congregated in the area of town where her rental shop was located. They sat and rested there after they exchanged their MoPo Batteries. She noticed that there was an opening in the market - no one was selling them cold drinks!

With the knowledge and skills gained from training offered through WHI, she decided to use some of her savings to start a second business selling cold drinks, water, and ice. Her goal is to have two sources of income so she can continue to add to her savings while not relying on only one source of income.

Another woman agent was excited to share with us how Mobile Power has changed her life in a big way. She believed

it provided opportunities that did not seem possible before she became a MoPo Agent. When she was young, she was on track to matriculate from high school and attend university. However, due to financial difficulty, she had to abruptly end her education. The only option she felt she had left was to get married and become a wife and mother.

After living through some difficult years, she was selected to be a MoPo Agent. She poured her heart into her new work while still prioritizing her family. This hard work and dedication led to her recently expanding her MoPo business to include multiple family members—and that's just the start.

"I've been enrolled into the university with the savings I made out of the money I earned...from my daily rentals," she excitedly shared with us. We celebrate with her this huge achievement, and we are humbled to have played a small part in this success!

## RELATED PROJECT:

### Mobile Power

- **Goal:** To see renewable energy easily accessible by all rural communities located in off-grid locations in Sierra Leone



- **Did you know:** Female agents make 17% more profit than male counterparts; 98 agents have been trained by WHI on the 7 gender empowerment module

# ENABLE THE CHILDREN

## Cherished and Healthy

**W**orld Hope's Enable the Children (ETC) program in Sierra Leone provides care and support to children living with disabilities and their families. This includes everything from physiotherapy to advocacy and awareness building to family support groups - and more.

The ETC program also includes overseeing the care of 75 children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), providing behavioural advice and family support. Children with ASD in Sierra Leone are highly stigmatized and frequently called "crazy" or "fools" and thought to be demon-possessed. Their families often resort to chaining them up or locking them in their houses, as they are afraid of what will happen to them if they wander alone into the communities. It is unknown how many children are affected by ASD in Sierra Leone as the children are often hidden away when there is any census and diagnostics are not easily available. But it does not have to stay this way!

Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, the ETC team has managed to continue different programs over the past year and has carefully resumed most activities now.

Earlier this year, when the world celebrated World Autism Day, Anna Vines, the Program Director of Enable the Children, stated that "Making a point of celebrating this day and continuing to raise awareness about Autism is highly important. We will



be organizing an educational meeting for our families to help them and their community know more about how to care for their children."

The ETC team also visited a number of different families in Sierra Leone this year to distribute dental hygiene kits. These kits were donated by the Shared Blessings Global Outreach Foundation, along with a toy donated by the Korle-Bu Neuroscience Foundation for children in the program.

Although COVID-19 travel restrictions at the time made it impossible to provide direct dental care for children living with disabilities in the ETC program, this home visit approach ensured that the children at least received dental kits.

One child who received a kit was twelve-year-old Ibrahim, who has Autism. We have been working with Ibrahim, whose family cares deeply for him, since April 2016.



Ibrahim particularly likes pulling things out of bags and enjoys playing.

His mother was very happy with the dental kit, as teeth brushing is something that she really struggles to do with Ibrahim, but since she was given the children's toothpaste, he has tolerated it much better. His mother commented that she thinks that he likes the taste! This has meant that his dental hygiene is improving and his whole mouth is looking much healthier. She has messaged the team several times to say thank you!

There is a lot of work ahead to remove stigma and misconceptions and ensure that children living with disabilities or who are neurodivergent are treated with dignity and have access to opportunity and hope, too - but together, we are moving towards a more inclusive world where every child is not only cherished but healthy and set up to thrive.

## RELATED PROJECT:

### Enable the Children

- Goals: 1) To enable children living with disabilities to be included, loved, and valued in their families and communities, ensuring a good quality of life and 2) to empower families and communities to provide the necessary physical and developmental support so that their children living with disabilities can have a good quality of life

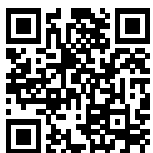
- SDGs:



## we are the village

It takes a village to ensure that a child can grow up safely, securely, & with **access to education** and hope for **opportunities** in the future.

World Hope's child sponsorship program is set up to remove barriers to education for children, and you can join their global village for as little as \$41/month.



**START  
SPONSORING  
NOW!**



## CHILD SPONSORSHIP

# Biking Over Barriers

**A**t World Hope, we believe in partnerships. They are crucial to the work we do, and without them, we would not be celebrating today! When individuals and communities around the world choose to partner with us, we take that commitment very seriously.

Our child sponsorship program is an example of that commitment to partnership. It goes deeper than paying school fees - it is about promoting dignity, opportunity, and hope throughout an entire community. We believe it takes a village to ensure that a child can grow up safely and securely, access education, and find future opportunities.

Today we are celebrating our partnership with a village in northern Sierra Leone! This community is facing a barrier to education - it has no school of its own. To access education, children from this village have to travel to schools in the surrounding communities. This daily trek is around three miles each way. As you can imagine, that is a long journey after a full day of learning! The children are often very tired by the time they get home and are not able to put energy into studying. This has been negatively impacting their grades and ability to excel in their studies.

Through our partnership, community stakeholders communicated with us that



their children needed a safe way to get to school and back so that they would not be so tired. The solution? Bicycles!

We are so excited to be a part of distributing 50 bicycles, helmets, and bike locks to 26 girls and 24 boys in the village! Partnerships work and we love seeing them in action. Now, all 50 children can safely

and quickly get to school and back home, with plenty of energy left for studying!

"I was walking every day to school; when I came back I was too tired to study. But now World Hope has given me an opportunity to have a bicycle for going to school and that will impact my life. I will be able to study," said Kaday, a bicycle recipient.

Sahr Kpakima, Child Sponsorship Manager for WHI Sierra Leone, said, "The atmosphere was overwhelming when the children saw the vehicles loaded with the bicycles - children and parents jumped into singing and dancing. I was moved by the way the children appreciated the bicycle supply. It is crystal clear that they were really challenged to cover the long distance going to school every day. I believe with the supply of those bicycles they will be able to perform better in school because they will now go to school on time and return home early after school, by which they will be able to have enough time to study. Parents who used to pay transportation costs for their children will no longer have to do that. I want to thank all the donors for these bicycles and WHI staff for ensuring that this happens. My prayers are with you all. Thank you!"

***"I was walking every day to school; when I came back I was too tired to study. But now World Hope has given me an opportunity to have a bicycle for going to school and that will impact my life. I will be able to study," said Kaday, a bicycle recipient.***



## PROTECTION

# Celebrating Stories of Survival

People often assume that “human trafficking” is an interchangeable term with “sexual exploitation.”

However, while sexual exploitation is a large part of human trafficking, it can also look like domestic servitude, child labour, or forced marriages. People who are in search of opportunities may have to look outside their community and participate in labour migration. This leaves them in a vulnerable position where they must rely on those around them, often leading to exploitation

and enslavement—all of which are forms of human trafficking.

According to the United Nations, “Human Trafficking is the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of people through force, fraud or deception, with the aim of exploiting them for profit. Men, women, and children of all ages and from all backgrounds can become victims of this crime, which occurs in every region of the world. The traffickers often



use violence or fraudulent employment agencies and fake promises of education and job opportunities to trick and coerce their victims.”

The following are stories of brave women and girls in West Africa who survived human trafficking and found new freedom at World Hope’s Recovery Centre in Sierra Leone. It is important to hear their stories of recovery and freedom as we continue our work to care for survivors and end human trafficking in all its forms.

One survivor shared with us how she was almost forced into an international marriage—to a man she had never met.

In some regions of the world, it is fairly common for parents to arrange a marriage for their children. Sometimes the children have not met their betrothed or fully consented to the intended union.

Amie\*, a 15-year-old Sierra Leonean girl, is from a rural area where she grew up with her biological parents and siblings. Recently, she had gone to live with her father’s sister in a bigger town in order to attend high school. She happily attended school there and would only go home to visit her family when school was not in session.

When Amie last came home from school, after being away for almost an entire year, she was excited to find her father waiting to greet her. However, the news he had was not what Amie wanted to hear. He said that she was to be married to a man who lived in a nearby West African country and that Amie must travel with a woman they called “Aunty” to meet her new husband. Amie tried to protest but her father remained adamant that she would travel and be married as the marriage rites had already been completed by the Aunty.

In order to leave Sierra Leone to be married, Amie’s travel documents were fabricated to say she was in her 20s. After that was done, she was sent on her way with the Aunty and a group of other girls heading for a similar fate.

We celebrate that when Amie and the group reached the border, they were intercepted by the border police due to discrepancies in their documents and what the Aunty was saying. Amie and the other survivors were immediately handed over by the border police to the Ministry of Labour. WHI then was able to assess and accept Amie and a



few other girls into our Recovery Centre, while the other survivors were admitted to partner shelters! Amie has shared that she is so “happy this journey did not materialize because I can go continue my education.”

Two other survivors, 10- and 12-year-old sisters, shared with us how they survived being trafficked into child labour and domestic servitude. Sadly, their story is not an uncommon one among rural families. Many parents just want to provide their children with the opportunity for education. Traffickers prey on this desire and will promise the parents that the children are going to live with them in the bigger towns so they can attend good schools. However, typically these promises are hollow and the children end up living as servants to the traffickers and their clients. Sometimes, parents are fully aware of the fate that awaits their children, but they may need

money or resources so badly they send the children away regardless.

Binta\* and Dawa\* lived with their parents in a rural part of Sierra Leone. One day, they met a lady who was introduced to them as an “Aunty” who lived in Freetown, the main city in Sierra Leone. Their parents said they would be going to live with Aunty and attend school in Freetown. Binta and Dawa were sad to leave their parents, but they were excited to attend school in the city.

In Freetown, the girls said they were treated nicely for the first week. After the initial week there, the Aunty started to give them many tasks to do. She made them go collect water every day at 5 a.m., do chores, and serve food in a tent that was used as the Aunty’s restaurant.

About three weeks into living in Freetown, the girls built up the courage to ask about





***“Really want to continue staying here at the center, it feels so good...we were afraid that something bad would happen to us...but now we feel safe.”***



attending school. The Auntie became very angry with them and started yelling at them. She said that they were not there to attend school but to do chores and help her find money!

After doing the Auntie’s bidding for a while and being denied education, the girls decided they needed to run away. They did not know the area well, but one day when they went to fetch water they purposely got lost in the crowds of people. They did not know where they had ended up and it began to get late and grow dark. A man found them wandering the streets and after asking them questions about how they ended up in Freetown, he took them to a nearby police station.

The police quickly contacted WHI and a preliminary assessment was made. Binta and Dawa were admitted to the Recovery Centre to recover and have access to trauma

counseling. The survivors’ parents were found and are now in contact with them. The Auntie was also found and promptly arrested. The girls said they “really want to continue staying here at the center, it feels so good...we were afraid that something bad would happen to us...but now we feel safe.”

*\*Name is fabricated to protect the identity of the survivors.*

*Note: For protection purposes, all images featured here are unrelated to the survivors whose stories were shared in this article.*

## RELATED PROJECT:

### Recovery Centre

- Goal: to provide holistic care to survivors of human trafficking

- SDGs:





SOCIAL VENTURES

# The Sustainability of Hope

As hard as it is to imagine healthcare facilities operating without clean water in this century, it is even harder to imagine a hospital functioning without any form of power. In fact, it is nearly impossible. Unfortunately, since mid-October of 2021, news reports have begun surfacing that reveal this is exactly the situation facing Haitians today: hospitals across the island mainland are facing shutdowns over fuel shortages as a result of spiraling gang activity. The *Le Nouvelliste* in Haiti was the first to report that more than “40 hospitals may be forced to close due to the dire fuel shortage affecting the country.” Some of these hospitals are among the few

that were able to provide any COVID-19 care, too, according to the *Haitian Times*.

On “the forgotten” Haitian island of La Gonâve, however, the La Gonâve Wesleyen Hospital has been operating steadily through this crisis - and was even able to deploy two medical teams and resources

to the Haitian mainland to provide life-saving care for survivors of the terrible August 14, 2021

earthquake, while still continuing operations as usual.

The hospital, which World Hope assumed leadership of with board majority along with Global Partners and the Haitian



**L'Hôpital Wesleyen**  
de LaGonâve



A special capital campaign with updates to the hospital's facilities, infrastructure, and resources will help ensure the sustainability of hope and health in Haiti. The first phase of this campaign for hope and health is focused on new and improved facilities, support systems, human resources, and vital resources. These are 7 primary elements of Phase 1 that will improve the hospital's facilities, infrastructure, and vital resources. You can explore the details and learn more online!

1. Build a New Outpatient Clinic
2. Build a New Maternity Center
3. Add a Triage Area & Expand ER Bed Space
4. Build an O2 Generation Plant
5. Build a Blood Bank
6. Overhaul the Water Supply System
7. Increase Transportation Fleet

Wesleyan Church at the end of 2020, is partnering with Build Health International to improve the hospital's capacity to serve the local - and national - population.

The hospital now has access to reliable power through the Tesla unit we installed earlier in 2021 and receives clean water through the GivePower Solar Water Farm we launched with GivePower in 2020, but other facilities and infrastructure are in need of critical updates. These will provide vital resources for Haitians and expand the capacity of the hospital to better meet the needs within the island's greater community - as well as put the hospital on the track to a sustainable future.

World Hope will continue to partner with Build Health International to facilitate and implement the strategic updates to La Gonâve

Wesleyan Hospital being financed by this campaign, ensuring that the hospital can continue to build quality health and real hope to the community and the larger island nation.

## RELATED PROJECT:

### L'Hôpital Wesleyan de LaGonâve

- Goals: 1) connect the hospital to reliable, clean water, 2) upgrade the hospital's solar power system, 3) develop a strategic 5-year plan, and 4) implement the 5-year strategic plan
- SDGs:







## EMERGENCY RESPONSE

# Haiti Earthquake Relief

A devastating 7.2 magnitude earthquake struck Haiti on Saturday, August 14, 2021. The epicenter was recorded around 12 km northeast of Saint-Louis-du-Sud, about 125 km west of the capital Port-au-Prince. Haiti's Civil Protection Agency reports over 2,200 deaths and 12,300 injured.

Initial reports indicated 13,694 buildings collapsed, including hospitals and schools, and over 13,785 homes were destroyed, and significant damage to infrastructure and roads. The destruction also pushed hospitals to the brink and blocked roads that would carry vital supplies. The most urgent humanitarian needs were medical assistance, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), food, shelter, and emergency evacuations.

WHI was on the front lines since the earthquake hit focusing on clean water, health & medicine, and logistics. Since August 15, 2021, we had a large contingent of staff and volunteers on the ground mobilizing a coordinated response with multiple organizations like Amazon, World Central Kitchen, Give Power Foundation, La Gonâve Wesleyen Hospital, SOL Relief, LIFT, CORE, WISH (West Indies Self Help) and The Wesleyan Church. Our coalition provided water, food, medical support, emergency evacuations, and temporary shelter for the families and children who were most affected by the earthquake.



**44 ORGANIZATIONS** were served by an air bridge, including **8** hospitals.



**174 FLIGHTS** on the private aircraft were completed for a total of **243** flight hours, moving people and supplies where and when they were needed.



**391 PASSENGERS** including **87** medevacs, **187** medical professionals, **42** civil engineers and logisticians, **26** executives, **34** communications providers, and **15** subject matter experts.



**260 METRIC TONNES OF SUPPLIES** delivered to communities and organizations in the impact zone.



## Clean water relief from the GivePower Solar Water Farm:

WHI's GivePower Solar Water Farm on the Haitian island of La Gonâve was unaffected by the earthquake making it possible to produce clean water at the facility and deliver it by boat directly to the impacted areas of the island via three ports. Following a disaster, clean water is vital not only for safe drinking purposes but to also prevent a secondary health disaster resulting from a lack of sanitation and hygiene.



## Medical teams from La Gonâve Wesleyen Hospital:

Two specially formed teams of Haitian medical doctors and nurses from the La Gonâve Wesleyen Hospital flew directly into the devastated southern region of Haiti, ready with medical expertise, supplies, and a passion to help their fellow citizens. World Hope also worked to ensure the supply of medicine as well as medical equipment and supplies.

## BARBADOS TRAINING EVENT

# Preparing for Disaster Response Disaster Preparedness Training in the Caribbean



More than 100 disasters - many of which were climate- and weather-related - have affected more than 50 million people worldwide since March 2020. Global disasters facing communities worldwide are increasing rapidly. The impact is not just in the loss of life or property, but the psychological trauma that takes place as well.

We all know there will be storms, earthquakes, and volcanic eruptions. But why wait for the disaster to strike before we show up for relief work? Why not go ahead of the storm and train people to be prepared?

Proper preparation can reduce the impact of a disaster. That's why World Hope held a free Disaster Preparedness Training in Barbados during the summer of 2021.

Trainers came from the United States, Canada, and Scotland. Each one was experienced in disaster relief and search and rescue. The trainers were an amazing group of people to spend time with each day. They had been involved in search and rescue efforts from the Pentagon on 9/11 to recovery missions in Central Asia. They not only had stories to share but the physical scars on their bodies from their rescue efforts.

### **The goals of the Barbados Training Event were:**

To provide training to First Responders and the faith community in the event of a disaster.

To develop relationships with these groups and the government to highlight private sector resources available in a time of crisis.



WHI gave invitations for training to the Barbados Defense Forces, First Responders, Barbados Fire Department, US Embassy personnel, leaders of the World Food Programme, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), Red Cross, Caribbean Disaster Management Agency, United States Southern Command Defense Force, faith leaders, and civic leaders. Each day, for four days, there was in-class instruction time and hands-on training.

The goals of the training event were to provide first-rate training to those who would be responding to a disaster and build relationships among the various groups on the island who would need to coordinate efforts in a time of crisis. World Hope wants to prepare groups for crisis response and lay out concrete ways to serve communities and provide physical and emotional care guidance.

## First Response Disaster Relief Volunteer Training

When disaster strikes, having volunteers trained and ready to deploy is vital as World Hope works to provide clean water to communities impacted by natural disasters. In 2020 & 2021, WHI Canada trained 87 volunteers to respond both nationally and internationally. The international volunteer training included preparation and information to become a first responder. Kingston Standard Church (Kingston, Ontario) and Hillside Wesleyan Church (Halifax, Nova Scotia) hosted volunteer training workshops where WHI staff and specialists taught volunteers how to prepare, implement best practices and how to bring hope in the midst of a natural disaster.



## Fill the gap on last-mile emergency relief logistics:

Once emergency relief supplies and personnel arrived in Haiti, they still needed to reach the hard-hit sites, but the earthquake meant that usual means and routes for transport were no longer options. World Hope leased 2 helicopters, 2 CASA's, and 1 Aztec to provide vital transportation in and out of otherwise inaccessible locations, moving first responders, emergency relief, and medical supplies and air-lifting survivors out of hard to access mountain locations.



# THE POWER OF HOPE!




**M**eet Luciano, from Haiti, and his wife, Ana, from Mexico! Luciano grew up in a child sponsorship program in Haiti for 17 years before having the opportunity to go to university and complete his degree in Canada, focusing on youth education. Luciano grew up with his mom, little brother, and grandmother in a coastal town between Port-au-Prince and Les Cayes. It was during his studies at Kingswood University in Canada that he first learned about World Hope, and after returning to Haiti, he joined WHI.

"Education is very, very important, especially in Haiti where our education system is poor and our illiteracy rate is high. I feel very fortunate as my own educational experience opened lots of doors for me - even here in a country where there are so few jobs. My education opened lots of opportunities for me that were unthinkable. Now that I'm back in Haiti, my life has come full circle and I am helping others like me. But education alone only goes so far. In countries like Haiti strong communities are important to provide social resilience."

"When you have a lack of opportunity and mix in weapons with desperation and hopelessness, you get a climate of violence. People feel that they're being terrorized and they're fearful for their lives every single day. It is stifling and hopeless. At World Hope, though, we are empowering these communities. We even have a project in a town where we must travel through the place where the most dangerous gang in Haiti is located."

"Sometimes I wonder, why are we there? It's so dangerous! It's very hard! But at the end of the day, seeding these grains of hope matters. Hope is what keeps people moving forward. They see that some things work, that some things are possible, and I think it helps them to stay alive and to keep going."

When the earthquake struck in August this year, Luciano and other Haitians were really concerned about the south part of the country, near the epicenter of the earthquake. "Every Haitian wanted to do something because we understood the impact as the entire country was struck by



a similar disaster in 2010. This time, we could do something about it

**"LOVE IS VERY  
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IF YOU WANT  
TRANSFORMATION,  
THAT REQUIRES ACTION."**

ourselves because sustainable systems are now in place."

Last year, World Hope and GivePower launched a Solar Water Farm that desalinates and treats drinking water on La Gonâve, Haiti. Since we launched it last summer, we were able to supply the mainland with safe, clean, and good water when their systems and supplies were destroyed or contaminated by the earthquake. Luciano shares, "My friend who manages the water farm is from Les Cayes and his house was destroyed. But he was able to help his community and our fellow Haitians by producing and delivering clean water in a time of trouble." Luciano adds, "We also supported the La Gonâve Wesleyen Hospital, and two teams of our very own Haitian nurses and doctors went over to the mainland to treat those who were wounded and in need of aid."

World Hope is supporting the upgrade of La Gonâve Wesleyen Hospital and as a result, the hospital now has reliable, clean water from the water farm and a new reliable Tesla solar power system, providing power 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. As Luciano puts it, "using solar power is great because not only is it

safeguarding our environment and using renewable resources, but also because the electricity company we have in Haiti isn't reliable. Sometimes there is plenty of electricity and sometimes, after three good days, it's out for a whole month. Being energy independent is saving lives."

World Hope is working every day in Haiti and around the world to make a difference by supporting access to education; clean water and energy; global health; and countering human trafficking. With support from people like you, we are promoting dignity and building opportunity and hope in communities where we work globally.

"Love is very practical," says Luciano. It's not just a sentiment. If you want transformation, that requires action. World Hope is a channel for us to actively and transformationally love our neighbours."

Jesus' disciples asked him what was the greatest commandment in the Law and He replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbour as yourself.' All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments" (Matthew 22: 37-40). World Hope creates opportunities to live this out with people in some of the most vulnerable positions in the world.

As Luciano says, **"World Hope will invest your gift to make people's lives better, just like my own life was transformed through generosity and love in action. This investment in people, this love for our neighbour, will change the world."**



## DONOR STORY

# Going Deep with Long-Term Partnerships on a Global Scale



Global ministry partnerships are an amazing way to get churches, organizations and schools to expand relationships beyond their local networks and get connected to global development.

Tanya Nace, World Hope Canada CEO, had the privilege of speaking with the senior pastor of Trenton Wesleyan Church, Brian Carswell, about how supporting World Hope's well-drilling projects in Sierra Leone has impacted his church and also helped bring water to communities without access.

"We've caught on to the idea of going deep instead of being wide and shallow in supporting many different missions," Brian shared. "That is what we have done in the

past - just tried to get a lot more pins on the map on the wall because it looks better. But it is so much more effective, we've learned, to go deep."

Brian explained that he and his church chose to make a long-term commitment to World Hope's mission of drilling wells in Sierra Leone. Continued support from a church like Brian's throughout the years allows World Hope community partners to have the stability of resources and encouragement they need to make deep, solid and consistently progressive changes in the communities they are serving in.

Church partnerships are not just a one-way street. The ability to form a deep, meaningful kinship with a project or

area of the world is rewarding on both ends, especially on the church's side. This ongoing and long-lasting relationship between a church in North America and a mission in another country allows the congregation to become invested in their project goal, and get excited by the transformations taking place. Brian shared about the true joy his congregation receives in seeing their impact grow over time as the partnership relationship and project achievements grow. Being situated in a military town, Trenton Wesleyan's congregation has a high number of members employed by the armed forces, many of whom have been on tour in some of the most volatile places around the globe. These people have seen firsthand the challenging reality of refugee camps and children suffering from poverty, violence, and lack of opportunity. They know the impact a single well and clean water makes. Thus, his congregation has a special passion for raising money for well-digging projects with World Hope in Sierra Leone. At the completion of one of the wells provided by the church's fundraising efforts, World Hope sent the church the coordinates of the specific well they had funded. Members were thrilled to use that coordinate to see on Google Maps exactly where their well was built and see that their efforts had come to bear fruit! Now the church has funded 3 wells in Sierra Leone and is excited to continue working towards even more being dug in the future!

"We are learning that balance is important," Brian said. "When it comes to our ministries in our community, we make a big difference here in Trenton, but then, we can also really make a difference in Africa too!"

Engaging in a global partnership as a church requires sacrificial giving both from the church as a whole and from all of the members within it. Brian notes, however, that "there is a passage of scripture that refers to the idea that you cannot out-give God. In the same measure that you give out; God gives back, and that he can pour out even more blessings." He has seen that God blesses generous people on a personal level but he has also seen that God blesses generous churches as well!

***"We've caught on to the idea of going deep instead of being wide and shallow in supporting many different missions."***

"You really don't know that in a practical sense until you test it," Brian admitted.

To discover what a global project can do in your own church community, visit the Partnerships page on our website, or reach out to see how we can tailor a partnership specifically to you and your community organization or business!



# New Hires

## Miranda Valentini, Director of Engagement and Experience

*Location: Canada*

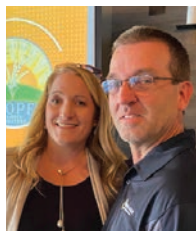
Miranda comes to World Hope after serving the local church for 12 years in various pastoral roles, working primarily with children and families. She earned her BA from Kingswood University and has also recently completed the Arrow Leadership Program. Miranda is passionate about people being empowered to make change for themselves and their families. Miranda is excited to connect donors with the transformation that's happening around the world through WHI's projects.



## Derek Rattray & Jenny Gaines-Rattray, Project Leaders, The Hope Garden Project

*Location: Canada and The Bahamas*

Jenny and Derek never expected they would work in the non-profit sector. Jenny has worked extensively with children of all ages, both professionally and in several leadership volunteer roles. She earned her diploma in Business Management and in her late 30's made the decision to focus primarily on quality and



culturally diverse childcare; the result was her opening and operating 3 successful child care centers. Jenny continues to take advantage of learning opportunities and has received several certificates in methods of learning. She loves event management and has considerable experience in planning, executing and hosting large events including fundraisers. Derek has had nearly 30 years working in food sales and grocery management. This has included extensive experience in negotiating, product line growth, meeting deadlines and product representation. As a project lead of The Hope Garden Project, Derek consults with partners, both local and international. He oversees legal and accounting services, organizes trips and manages logistics as well as communicating with local church and community leaders.

## Rebecca Bowerman, Short-Term Missions Coordinator

*Location: Canada*

Rebecca's first involvement with World Hope was as a disaster relief volunteer in the Bahamas after Hurricane Dorian. That led into a volunteer role helping to write blogs for WHI, and most recently as World Hope International - Canada's Short Term Missions Logistics Coordinator. Rebecca has a passion for justice and a heart to provide hope and assistance to others in need or in crisis. She has an Honours B.A. with Distinction in International Development Studies and a Minor in Ministry from Redeemer University.





## Megan Holmes, Operations Manager for WHI Cambodia

*Location: Cambodia*

Megan has over 15 years of operations experience in large church and nonprofit settings, and as the founder of the social venture, Conscious Products. With a strong interest in sustainability and market-based hybrid social impact solutions, Megan works to improve support systems to promote efficient and effective problem-solving. Notable work has included operations consulting where she focuses on capacity-building and collective impact in the USA, Cambodia, Mexico, and Greece. Megan's collaborative experiences have led her to work with multiple international churches, Christian musicians and speakers, the FBI, the State Department, the Polaris Project, local level governments and activists, and as a board member of Justice 180.



With a BA in Non-Western History and Marginalized Communities, Megan has worked on reforestation projects in Kenya and New Zealand, sustainable development research in Samoa, church development in Mexico, and now lives with her family in Cambodia where she is completing an MBA in Social Impact from Eastern University. With World Hope Megan works as the Operations Manager for the Cambodia office with the focus of supporting strategic development and capacity building through the implementation of viable operational systems.

## Elijah Kahira, WASH Specialist

*Location: Sierra Leone*

Elijah is a WASH Specialist with over 10 years of experience in WASH programming across multiple countries in Africa, facilitating high-level WASH humanitarian programs across Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan and the Democratic Republic of Congo. Elijah has served with various organizations such as ADRA, OXFAM GB, MEDAIR, and Samaritan's Purse. Within the different roles held in these organizations, he coordinated and managed multimillion-dollar budgets under different donors (UNICEF, UNHCR, BHA, Poolfund, etc), and facilitated process improvement, Infection prevention control response, and overall planning efforts to meet program objectives. He has solid communication, time management, and problem-solving skills that allow him to excel in coordinating all facets of program and project life cycles. He is well versed with a wide range of hygiene promotion approaches, i.e., PHAST, CHAST, CLTS, SLTS, F-diagram and leads in the development of various WASH IEC materials, Job aids, and SoPs.



## Alice Kostrzewa, Business Development and Partnerships Manager for West Africa

*Location: Sierra Leone*

Alice is from the UK and has been in Sierra Leone since 2019, in Sierra Leone she has managed a national health project, a multidisciplinary complex project



in Connaught Hospital, and worked in informal settlements. Alice has have an understanding of the context and challenges of delivering programs in West Africa; where she has successfully managed a complex multidisciplinary partnership project; a consortium project for SLURC (Sierra Leone Urban Research Centre) working in informal settlements and a national health project as part of the FCDO Saving Lives Consortium. Additionally, she has successfully delivered projects, programs, and evaluations within the NGOs, healthcare, public, and education sectors in the UK, India, and Zimbabwe with nearly 10 years of experience. Her academic background is a Master's in Global Development and Gender and an undergraduate degree in Architectural Studies. Her expertise in gender, project management, stakeholder engagement, partnership building, and research management including evaluations. Along with working here in Sierra Leone Alice has fundraised and built toilets in Cockle Bay informal settlement and volunteered in Susan's Bay fire disaster relief.

## **Tara Kram, Director of Child Sponsorship**

*Location: United States*

Tara is passionate about global service and has lived into her passion through working with refugee families, child sponsorship, adoption education

and reform, and sustainable humanitarian aid. Tara values healthy organizational and leadership structures that empower others to reach their full potential while advancing the organization's mission. As the Director of Child Sponsorship, she strives to continually assess the needs of the individuals and



communities WHI serves in order to increase access to education and improve the quality of education available to children.

Tara earned a bachelor's degree in Spanish and communications from Western Michigan University, her master's degree in counseling from Grand Rapids Theological Seminary, and her doctorate in organizational leadership and development from Cornerstone University. Her vocational journey has focused on leadership in higher education, which drives her passion for accessible, quality education globally.

## **Samuel Schleipman, Business Development and Partnerships Manager, Asia**

*Location: Cambodia*

Sam Schleipman comes to World Hope with a diverse background living and working in southeast Asia and sub-Saharan

Africa. His first experiences in the realm of international development were with the US Peace Corps in Sierra Leone and Namibia, and the Fulbright program in Malaysia, where he focused on designing and implementing education projects. Sam then studied for his MA at Tufts University, where he focused on Human Security and Humanitarian Response. He then served as a Program Manager for Catholic Relief Services, supporting integrated health, education, and livelihood projects in Sierra Leone and Cambodia. Sam is eager to bring his development experience to World Hope and to work closely with the teams in Cambodia and the Philippines to design winning proposals and forge effective partnerships.



## IN PROFILE!

# Seng Mang: Working for Humanity

**W**orld Hope is staffed and led by an incredible team of passionate professionals around the world. It is our honor to introduce you to Seng Mang M.A., World Hope's Anti Sexual and Gender-based Violence Program Manager in Cambodia!

A professional clinical psychologist, Mang has experience providing direct counseling and trauma-focused therapy to victims of violence. He is on a mission to see big changes come to Cambodia's understanding of counseling and mental health through his role at World Hope.

Mang was born and raised just a few kilometers outside Phnom Penh, Cambodia, in the tumultuous context of the Cambodian civil war, when food and supplies were scarce and bombings were common. The educational system was strapped for resources, attendance in school was low, propaganda was being taught by teachers in classrooms, and corporal punishment was a lot more common.

Amidst all of this, Mang counts himself blessed to have been born to parents who



valued education and believed that children should be in school.

Throughout his childhood, Mang's parents modeled hospitality and kindness. "They were always helping people who were distressed, having difficulties or family problems," said Mang. "My parents were always kind and wanted to help people - even when someone would borrow money and not return it, they would still continue to support them." So, even though he did not know in his youth what occupation he wanted to pursue, he knew that he really wanted to help people.

In secondary school that vision became clearer as Mang's peers knew him to be a safe person - easy to trust and confide in. Entering college, Mang enrolled in Psychology, and he knew then he wanted to work for an NGO. Mang now holds a master's degree in Clinical Psychology from



the Royal University of Phnom Penh and brings with him over 10 years of experience working in his field.

Given Cambodia's history, Mang realized that there was still a lot of generational trauma that remained after the civil war. Things have improved since he was a child but Mang finds that there is a lot of misunderstanding and distrust when it comes to the topic of psychology and mental health, creating a significant barrier to helping survivors of violence get the help they need.

"I remember one time I was volunteering on a team to go to communities to conduct awareness-raising for basic mental health," Mang recounted. "When the people heard the team was presenting on mental health, they seemed like they did not want to attend, and were hesitant to come and talk to us because they always think that we can read their minds and were the same kind of people as fortune-tellers."

Out of college, Mang began working with survivors of trauma at the hospital and learned a lot from his years of experience there. Later he gained additional training in trauma-focused continual therapy working with Hagar, with a focus on children. While there, he also had the opportunity to select and train other Cambodians to help supervise the program and he occasionally trained NGO partners in basic skills of counseling and trauma care, as well.

"When I tell people what I do with World Hope, since not many people understand a lot about mental health, I tell them that I am working for Humanity - to help people."

What drew Mang to World Hope was the opportunity to work not only with individual survivors but also with entire communities to prevent violence in the first place. He was able to train others and go into places that had very limited resources for mental health and trauma, instead of working in the city. Mang started out with World Hope as a supervisor for a government social worker training program, and eventually trained others to take his place in that role. He now manages most of the programs for World Hope's Anti Sexual and Gender-based Violence efforts in Cambodia, and still works directly with survivors, as well.

"My dream is to see my whole country, especially women and children, be able to access professional counseling services when they need them," said Seng Mang.

Mang would also like to see the country have enough physical and human resources to provide a high quality of care. He longs to see women and children feel safe, and even though the general understanding of proper child discipline has come a long way since he was a child, he wants to see corporal punishment cease to exist in his nation. "I want people to better understand mental health," Mang added, "and I want people to be confident enough to find services."

Mang's determination is a testament to his beliefs and his heart. "I want to continue to contribute to the improvement of the state of my country. I don't want to be rich. I am happy with what I have and I just want to work with people." Mang is leaving a legacy in the many he has trained, creating effective advocates against sexual and gender-based violence in work that will have long-lasting ripples.

## REFLECTIONS

# Dr. Jo Anne Lyon

I have grown up learning the words of Jesus, "Love your neighbor as yourself." But many times, these words are more rote than real.

In 1985, I was visiting in an Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) Camp in the rural part of El Salvador. I was visiting El Salvador with a group of faith leaders on behalf of the Grand Rapids Center for Ecumenism, an agency of the Christian faith community of Grand Rapids, Michigan, focusing on hunger issues in the troubled region of Central America at this time.

This IDP camp was made up of primarily women, children, and old men. All the men and boys had been conscripted into the army. The stories of torture, horror and pain the people were experiencing in their civil war was overwhelming to me, and yet the women talked of how thankful they were to be in this camp. I looked around and could not believe the incredibly difficult living conditions. But they were not looking at that; they were grateful to be in this camp with armed guards and protection from the terror of the civil war of which they had previously experienced.

Despite the lack of food security, the women in the IDP camp gave us all a simple lunch comprised of the meager rations they had for themselves. I was embarrassed to eat it and yet at the same time, I realized if I refused, it might bring shame to them. Following the meal, the group had arranged for the children to sing and recite poetry. The women told how us how excited the children were to see people from "the outside." I then realized what that meant to all of them; this was a celebration: they had not been forgotten. Someone cared about them outside this camp.

To think one is forgotten is far worse than loneliness.



The children began singing in Spanish a tune that was familiar to me, but soon they switched to English, and I was overwhelmed again. In what I had envisioned as a desolate camp and where I had expected to see only struggle and pain, I was instead seated in a place of honor with a satisfied stomach and overflowing heart listening to these precious children. They were singing in beautiful harmony the familiar Hymn by Henry Van Dyke, "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee," and when they reached the text in the third verse, tears embarrassingly rolled down my cheeks.

***"Thou our Father, Christ our brother,  
All who live in love are Thine;  
Teach us how to love each other,  
Lift us to the joy divine."***

Mysteriously, I realized I was forever connected to these children. We were on common ground. We shared the same father and brother. I could not ignore them. I suddenly grasped the words of Jesus in "loving my neighbor." This was their gift to me. I needed to speak up when they could not be heard. They showered me with such gracious hospitality, filled me with their joy, and showed me so much love, and I wanted to reach back and share opportunity, dignity and hope with them in turn.

*Please contact our office if you would like more founder stories from Dr. Jo Anne Lyon.*



*Opportunity. Dignity. Hope.*

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